

first and second exciting electrodes formed on a part of at least one principal plane selected from the group consisting of a first principal plane of the piezoelectric substrate and a second principal plane opposed to the first principal plane,

wherein thickness shear vibration occurs,

a vibration direction of the thickness shear vibration is nonparallel to a side wall in a longitudinal direction of the piezoelectric substrate, and

a normal line of an edge in the longitudinal direction of the first exciting electrode and a normal line of an edge in the longitudinal direction of the second exciting electrode are parallel to each other, and are nonparallel to the side wall in the longitudinal direction of the piezoelectric substrate.

2. (Amended) The piezoelectric element according to claim 1,

wherein the first and second exciting electrodes are formed along an entire width in a traverse direction of the substrate on said at least one principal plane.

3. (Amended) The piezoelectric element according to claim 2,

wherein the piezoelectric substrate is formed of LiTaO_3 single crystal,

the first exciting electrode is formed on the first principal plane, and

the second exciting electrode is formed on the second principal plane.